Docket No.: 4492-0136PUS1

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Shinichi AZUMI et al.

Application No.: 10/553,207 Confirmation No.: 1238

Filed: October 13, 2005 Art Unit: 2852

For: LOCK MECHANISM FOR OPENING AND

CLOSING MEMBER AND IMAGE FORMING

APPARATUS

Examiner: R. N. Labombard

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

The following amendments and remarks are submitted in response to the Official Action dated November 30, 2007.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.